(c) The above measures have contributed to a marginal increase of 5.5% in the production of crude oil in the IX Plan period, as compared to the VIII Plan period.

(d) "India Hydrocarbon Vision-2025" lays down the frame work of the approach and policies that shall guide the Hydrocarbon Sector for the period upto 2025. Keeping in view the above approach, the thrust areas identified for the X Plan, *inter alia*, include:

- Acceleration of exploration efforts, especially in deep offshore and frontier areas,
- Improved Oil Recovery (IOR)/Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)
- Efficiency improvement which includes benchmarking of the hydrocarbon sector with international standards.

New Gas agencies at Supaul District (Bihar)

†2110. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal of starting gas agencies at Supaul, Pipara and Karjain Bazar of Supaul district in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when gas distribution centres are likely to become operational at the said places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) At presnet, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has a plan to set up a regular LPG distributorship at Supaul in place of terminated distributorship, in Supaul District in Bihar. It is not possible to indicate the exact time for commissioning of the agency. However, it usually take 6-12 months for commissioning of the agency from the date of interview for the said location.

Provision of CNG to Uttaranchal

†2111. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some steps are going to be taken by his Ministry to provide CNG fuel in those States which are sensitive from the point of view of environment;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.